

## The Times.

THE TIMES COMPANY.

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TENTH AND B STREETS,  
RICHMOND, VA.

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The Times is always indebted to friends who favor it with society items and personal, but must urge that all such be sent over the signature of the sender.

All unsigned communications will be rejected.

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WE DESIRE TO CALL THE ATTENTION OF ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE COMMUNICATIONS TO THE TIMES TO THE NECESSITY OF SIGNING THEIR NAMES TO ALL ARTICLES. THE RULE OF THIS PAPER NOT TO PUBLISH ANY ARTICLE THE NAME OF WHOM IS NOT KNOWN IS NOT A RETURNED UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY STAMPS.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1898.

## A QUALIFIED SUFFRAGE.

We have received the following letter from the editor of a prominent Virginia paper in the South, who has always been, and is, in full accord with the Democratic organization in Virginia.

We do not give his name for the letter is a personal communication and was not intended for publication. But in the interest of the cause, we take the privilege of making its contents public. He says:

Please allow me to congratulate you upon your editorial in today's Times under the caption, "Shall the Negro be Disfranchised?" It is the best and strongest statement of position I have seen anywhere. It is so near my views I can subscribe to it freely. The only difference is, that I think any white man who has not been enough in his country to qualify himself to vote under an educational and property qualification, should not be entitled to vote.

I shall reproduce your article in our next issue with a great deal of pleasure, and will be glad to welcome as able a champion as "The Times" to the ranks of those who desire a constitutional convention.

The untold reputation of "The Times" for honesty and fearlessness will make it a power in behalf of the ideas set forth in the editorial referred to.

The Times has been slow to advocate a qualified suffrage in Virginia, for the reason, as we have said, that it is hard to frame such a law without depriving many good and competent citizens of their vote. But we must deal with conditions as we find them and the conclusion has been forced upon us that in all communities where there is a large negro population to deal with, the suffrage must be restricted in the interest of good government and honest elections.

We are not quite clear as to the letter of the law to be enacted. We think that there should be some honorable exceptions, but that is a phase of the law that may be discussed hereafter. We insist, however, that it should be an honest law that shall apply fairly and justly to all classes. We are opposed to "understanding clauses," and what not that disfranchise the negro by the indirectness of political juggling and admit other men who do not possess the requisite qualifications.

Another question that must be taken into consideration is that of a possible reduction of our representation in Congress and the electoral college, in case any considerable number of voters are disfranchised. The question has not been brought in the case of South Carolina or Mississippi and it may be that the restricted suffrage in some of the Northern States may tend to quiet any inimical ostrichism of the subject.

But however that may be, our course is plain. The purification of our politics and the protection of our civilization are far above any mere considerations of a few more, or a few less Congressmen.

The Congressmen will hardly be expected to agree to this, though there are patriotic men who may.

## ONE INTEREST FOR ALL.

We copy in full the following editorial article from the Memphis Commercial Appeal, because it contains as many of the vicious elements of the politics of the day as anything we recollect to have seen in some time. It is as follows:

For a good many years the leaders of the Democracy have endeavored to peck at an alliance with the West. It has been a source of irritation to the West and the South have not gotten closer together, as they have much in common. When Cleveland ran for President the last time he secured ninety-eight electoral votes from the West, as against sixty-seven for Harrison, and this encouraged the Democratic leaders to think that the West had come into the party to stay. In 1896 Bryan was nominated on a platform which so far as geographical considerations were concerned, was distinctly Western, yet he received only sixty-three electoral votes in that section, while McKinley got 125.

We must confess that we are at a loss to explain the politics of the West. We can tell what it means. It was a desire for Cleveland when the silver issue was not very pronounced; and it went still more decisively for McKinley when that issue was at its height. And now in the Congressional elections it goes almost solidly for the Republican party; and but for that party would have sustained a disastrous defeat.

Does this mean that the West is more hostile to free silver than is any other section of the country, or is it due to Western enthusiasm over expansion? It

behoves the leaders of the Democracy to study the situation carefully and endeavor to meet actual conditions. So far as free silver is concerned it has little to hope for from the North. In that section such gains as the Democrats have made have been due for the most part to other issues than that of free silver. If silver then is to make headway, it must make it in the West. In the next Congress the Republicans will have a good working majority and they will be compelled to make a change in the financial system in the direction of absolute gold monometallism.

The West is apparently satisfied with the present financial system and prefers to free coinage of silver at 16 to 1, if elections are a criterion. It remains to be seen whether that section of the country will practically accept absolute gold monometallism, or whether it will rebel in favor of the free coinage of both metals at the usual ratio.

Why should any one want to see a union between the South and the West any more than between the South and the East? This is not a country of sections in which one geographical division has one set of interests and one line of policy, while another has a different set of interests and a different line of policy. It is one broad land extending from the Atlantic ocean to the Pacific ocean and from Canada to Mexico, in which there is one law for all, one language for all, and over which one flag floats as the emblem of the common nationality of all. The South has no interests that are common to the West and hostile to those of the East. Her interest is to have one standard of value for the whole country, one standard of weights and measures, absolute freedom of intercourse between the States and with foreign States, and perfect freedom to all men to use their resources in such manner as they enable them to have credits for transfer as they please. That is the interest of the South, that is the interest of the East, that is the interest of the West, and the men who argue in any part of the country that there is a section there which has some special interest antagonistic to any one of these ideas, are inimical to the best interest of their country, and, in fact, enemies of the very section in which they discourse as well as of the whole country at large.

White rule being conceded, for that, of course, supersedes all things, we should be glad if we never again heard of "the interests of the South." The interests of the South are the interests of the nation, and her highest interest is to see the nation at peace and prosperous, with one rule in general matters for all parts of the nation, while each locality is left to provide for the special administration of the local affairs of that locality.

**VIRGINIA UPHOLDS THE LAW.**

The Baltimore Sun of yesterday contains this editorial paragraph:

Two weeks ago James Webster (colored) committed a shocking assault on an estimable lady of Bedford City, Va. The fiend in human form was arrested and hurried off to the Lynchburg jail in order to prevent his lynching by the indignant citizens of Bedford City and county. Yesterday Webster was taken to Bedford City and tried in the County Court, the jury, after a brief consultation, returning a verdict of guilty and fixing the punishment. This is the proper and orderly way, and it is to be hoped that the judgment of the law may be permitted to be legally executed.

In the same connection it is proper to emphasize the fact that the Patrick county lynchings have been indicted by the grand jury and that they will be tried in a court of justice for their offense against the law of the land. In the midst of the disorders that have taken place in the South of late it is very gratifying to the law-abiding citizens of Virginia to note a fair trial of this negro offender in Bedford and his conviction by due process of law, to note also the fact that the people of Patrick county are determined that there shall be no act of mob violence in that community without bringing the members of the mob to the bar of justice to answer for their crimes. We do devoutly thank God for these evidences of respect for law and order in this old Commonwealth.

## NO FORCE BILL.

It is political gossip in Washington that President McKinley in his forthcoming message to Congress will refer to the recent riots in North and South Carolina, and perhaps make some recommendations. It is also said that if the President ignore the matter, it will be brought up in the Senate by Mr. Pritchard, of North Carolina, who will ask for the appointment of a special committee to investigate the recent disturbances in his State, and recommend such legislation as may serve to prevent a recurrence. It will be recalled that President McKinley while a member of Congress voted for the notorious force bill, and it is therefore inferred that he will probably make some such recommendation to Congress.

We do not believe it. To say nothing else, we believe that the President has too much sense and is too good a politician to revive that iniquitous measure. To do so would be not only to stir the South to its depths, but the President will ascertain that the sentiment throughout the North and West against negro domination and the force bill is stronger today than ever before in the history of this country. The whites are in no humor for mixed schools, force bills and the like and if Mr. McKinley wants to seal his doom politically let him revive this old scandal.

## THE POSTAL SYSTEM.

Representative Moody, of Massachusetts, said in Washington the other day that he believed that the Postal Commission, of which he was a member, will pay its expenses many times over in the saving which it will effect in the postal business of the nation in a number of minor details.

Here is a confession by a congressman that the postal system has not been conducted as economically as it should have been, and that by making changes here and there a great deal of money will be saved. Those who believe in government control of railroads, telegraph lines and all that, frequently refer to the Postoffice Department as an argument in favor of their scheme, but it is a notorious fact that this Department has never been conducted upon strictly business principles, has never been conducted as any private corporation would have conducted it, and that it has never paid operating expenses.

There is no reason to believe that the government would operate the railroads of the country any more successfully and the patronage of the Postoffice Department has ever been and ever will be a source of trouble to the government. We do not hesitate to say that, in our opinion,

the government would be much better off and the service would be improved, if the operation of this Department were committed to a private corporation, under certain regulations of government.

## WE ANSWER A QUESTION.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Salem (Va.) Sentinel, says that we would confer a favor upon it by answering our contemporary's question, "Why not Bryan in 1907?"

The Sentinel has doubtless observed a parade with banners, marching through the streets and preceded by a band of music. It is a magnificent spectacle and rivets the gaze as long as the banners are in sight and holds the attention as long as the music is sounding clear. But as the men march on the spectacle grows dimmer and the music becomes fainter on the circumambient air, until by and by the whole array is swallowed up in the dim distance, the strains of music are lost to the ear, and nothing but the thump, thump of the great bass drum can be heard.

"All things have but a time, love, all things have but a time," says the old song. There are some very attractive things in this world that appear for a little while, and when their day of grace is done, "trembling, pass in music out of sight."

Is our contemporary answered?

The British cup defender "Shamrock," the designer says, will be "all Irish," and, of course, therefore, a corker.

The Director of the Mint predicts a gold output of \$23,000,000 in 1899. What's the matter with the free and unlimited coinage of gold?

Portugal is embarrassed financially and has a crown worth \$8,000,000 for sale. Now let Don Carlos and Mrs. Domitria come to the front.

A Pennsylvania town has a new paper called The Tornado, but this is not necessarily another plum tree shaking enterprise.

Anyhow, Hobson was the original expansion man with his air bags.

The cattle king of Kansas, who is fleeing to Spain took off a large chunk of prosperity with him.

Hobson has returned to his class at the Annapolis Naval Academy, and thus the air is gradually getting out of the windbags except at the corner grocery.

The Cuban debt offers a rare opportunity for some Napoleon of Finance.

Now that the United States has bought the Philippines, Aguinaldo might get a job as the open-doorkeeper.

France has a battleship named Dupuy de Lôme, and it is safe to bet that there is a screw loose in her somewhere.

At the christening of the Wisconsin a young lady launched a lengthy poem, but failed to put enough tallow on the lines to make them glide off without jarring.

We hardly thought that he would do it, but Cervera has come out in an "I-told-you-so" letter to Spain.

It is thought that Saragosa can quell all disturbances at Madrid by rattling that \$20,000,000 at the mob.

Simultaneously come the announcements that the Indiana natural gas supply is out and that she will send a dialect poet to the Senate.

The season of church fairs is upon us, and every time the kettle sings we have a "musical tea."

The had gas is getting quite a blowing up, and some people are trying to make light of it.

General Walker is probably troubled with electrolysis from overcharged political wires.

The bright young men on the yellow journals have about completed McKinley's message.

The War Department does not seem to regard with favor the gallant charge on the treasury by the Second Regiment.

An Indiana judge recently refused to allow an attorney to present a case in verse. This precedent may be brought out in the service of Assistant District Attorney Flanagan.

## Proof Now.

To prove his love, in days of old, He fought in lists, with clashing steel, But now he lets his Dulcinea's Little brother ride his wheel.

—Detroit Journal.

## Easy Down Here.

The famous Hoodly failed to get a British baronetcy for \$250,000. If he would only come to this country he could get a full colonelcy on a governor's staff for a good deal less than that.—Baltimore American.

## Deliverance.

The poor, tired father now, His voice in thanks uplifts; For the twins are slumbering both at once.

—Detroit Journal.

## Reverie of a Bachelor.

A baby is a joy to its mother, an heir to its father, a charge to its nurse, a soul to the clergyman who baptizes it, a new biological specimen to the physician, a new customer to the shopkeeper, and a nuisance to the neighbors.—Zanwill.

## Suspicious.

Mr. Borum.—"Here, Martha, is a book I got today. It's a religious novel and is creating a great sensation."

Mrs. Borum.—"My goodness, hurry and hide it, then, so the children won't get hold of it."—Chicago News.

## To be Avoided.

If you call a woman "well-preserved," She'll say it's so herself; But you mustn't tell her you mean the kind That's put "upon the shelf."

—Philadelphia Bulletin.

## Quite Another Thing.

She says that he and another Chicago man have a wager as to which one will marry her?

He—No; as to which one will marry her first.—Hartford Life.

## Nothing in Particular.

Library Assistant (to visitor who is wandering about in a puzzled manner)—

## Dr. Young

Specialist,  
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Oldest in age; longest located;

Regular graduate two schools;

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Can I help you? Are you looking for anything special? Visitor (absentmindedly)—No, thank you. I was only looking for my wife.—Library Journal.

## A Rapid Mover.

"Did you get the baby's picture?" "Yes, the photographer couldn't take him; we had to go to a kintoscoper."—Chicago News.

## A Definition.

Professor Wigwag—What is a savage? Willie Whinkle—One who does not possess the benefits of civilization.

Professor Wigwag—And what is civilization? Willie—The art of concealing the fact that one is a savage.—Baltimore American.

## A Fragment.

A trusting little leaf of green, A bold audacious frost, A rendezvous, a kiss of two, And youth forever lost.

—The bitter, bitter coast!

A dancing patch of vivid red That quivers in the sun, A windy gust, a grave of dust— The little race is run.

—Were that the only one!

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox in Truth.

## No Time for Study.

The foot ball season's at an end, Some mighty wads of hair Lie in the barber shop to-day, And you may see them there.

The foot ball season's at an end, But have the boys returned Unto their much-neglected books, And are their lessons learned?

The foot ball season's at an end, Still books neglected lie; The glue clubs now are practicing For their innings by and by.

—Cleveland Leader.

## The Man Who Returned.

"Ah, you send me away to-day," he cried, "But I will come back again, When the world is applauding the work I've done, And you will accept me then."

So he left her there and journeyed forth, And as he struggled away He thought of the slender maid back there, Who should be his own some day.

And, at last, the world began to applaud; He had played for a stake and won, And women said flustering things to him Concerning the work he had done.

The summer had waned and the autumn winds Had begun to softly blow, When the man who had striven and won returned.

For the maid that he used to know.

—Chicago News.

## L'ENVOI.

For a maiden fair he played the game— For her he won to-day He wonders how he ever came To care for her anyway.

—Chicago News.

## Life's Sunset.

Lift up glad eyes from sorrow things; Lo! beauty flames afar! Before sunset glory pales The brilliant evening star.

The autumn dyes have touched the hills, And kissed the valleys sweet; And line on line in coming days Their magic will repeat.

The sunset rays in rapture blaze The landscape glorify; The gorgeous light deters the night That day in hope may die.

Of rosy tints and colors rare, Of blended shade and light— Lo! sunset glories decline, Withdrawn by Holy Night.

So, be my sun's decline at last, When mortal strife is o'er, To rise in radiant glory, On life's immortal shore.

—Boston Transcript.

## AFTERMATH.

Two girls at the Jacob Tome Institute, at Elkton, Md., have resigned because the instructor in physical culture insisted upon their wearing divided skirts instead of bloomers.

Fred W. Gantner, champion bicycle rider of Northern New York, killed himself at Pamelia on Tuesday last, dying by the corpse of his wife. He was twenty-two years of age and had been married twelve months.

A number of witnesses left Dover, Del., on Tuesday for California to testify in the famous Botkin case.

The switchman and engineer who were in charge of the train of coal cars which were run into the Exeter shaft at Wilkes Barre, killing nine men, have been arrested and will be tried for violating the mine ventilation laws.

Contracts for 50,000 tons of steel rails have been made in the last three days by the Federal Steel Company and Carnegie, says the New York World. Among the orders are 25,000 tons for the Chicago and Northwestern, 25,000 tons for the St. Paul, 50,000 tons for the Illinois Central and 50,000 tons for the eighteen-mile road in Hawaii. The price is understood to be \$15 a ton, and advance over last summer's record price of \$12.50. In 1897 the price was \$10; in 1894, \$14.50; in 1893, \$12.

It is said that the Keely motor man left an insurance of \$100,000.

A shrewd fellow in Chicago has been annoying General Joe Wheeler by forging the General's name to checks.

The New York Sinking Fund Commission opened bids Tuesday for \$1,250,000 thirty-year 3-1/2 per cent. bonds and \$500,000 ten-year 3-1/2 per cent. bonds of the city of New York, principal and interest payable in gold. The bonds are very desirable as an investment for trustees of estates, trust companies and savings banks in the State, as they are exempt from all taxation except for State purposes, and therefore at par are equal about to a 5-1/2 per cent. bond. The bids ranged from 106 1/2 to 107 1/2. The issue was subscribed fifteen times over.

## SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Mrs. Gray Skipwith's handsome parlors presented a peculiarly alluring condition of affairs last evening. From 8 to 10 Miss Sue Skipwith, the young daughter of the house, entertained her girl friends in a most impressive manner. At 10 o'clock the gentlemen came, and a sumptuous supper, including all the season's delicacies, was beautifully served. No invitations were issued to married people. The house is ever beautiful in floral or other decoration. The vivid scarlet hangings, the light from the chandeliers, the roses, red carnations, delicate ferns and dark leaved palms, made beautiful setting for the fresh faces and graceful figures, each in effective evening dress, and the light laughter, as the game proceeded, sounded delightfully from Mrs. Skipwith and her daughter in welcoming her guests. She wore yellow crepe du chene, the toilette being in charming taste.

Miss Skipwith's costume was admirably suited to her youth and general style. It was of delicately tinted pink silk—almost, indeed, that elusive tint of the seashell's lining.

Three prizes were given, the first being a handsome piece of Sevres china the second, a silver mounted watch and brush, and the third, a shoe horn.

Those present were: Misses Tunstall, of Washington; Stokes, Rogers, Mary Williams, Edna Forbes, Julia Morton, Harris, Hattie Ross, Ursula Hart, Watkins, Young, Scrimgeour, Christian, Pegram, Hayes, Harris, Davenport, Atkinson, Beale Pace, Flossie Talbot, Kate Buford, Margaret Branch, Eleanor Mosher, Della Tompkins, Shields, Peane, Annie Dreary, Florence Parks, Maria Mosley, Cameron,